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Thursday, April 26, 2012

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Metro's Race for Space

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- ▶ Thousands entered Metro's global contest
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{page 07}

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In the news

Kitten saved from Brooklyn house fire

Firefighters rescued a kitten from a Brooklyn house fire yesterday afternoon, according to the New York Post. A Brooklyn firefighter walked out with the terrified, tiny creature clutching to his vest. The firefighter told the Post the 3-week-old kitten was hiding in a corner of the room in the home. Nobody was injured in the blaze.

METRO/CB

In the news



Search for perv

The NYPD is hoping to nab a man accused of staring at a woman on the subway while masturbating. According to police, the woman was riding a Manhattan-bound L train on April 18. She said the man boarded at the Montrose Avenue station in Brooklyn and began masturbating while looking at her. He got off the train at Union Square. METRO/CG

Prosecutors: Get tough on 'skyrocketing' pill crimes

► It's illegal to have heroin and cocaine but not a bag of Oxycontin ► Some back law that would make having prescription pills like Oxycontin a felony ► NYC Oxycontin prescriptions increased 100 percent in last five years

Oxycontin prescriptions have increased 100 percent in the city since 2007, according to City Council testimony yesterday.

But cops and prosecutors say they need help putting the people who illegally sell these drugs in jail.

Right now, it is not illegal for someone to have tens of thousands of pills, said Special Narcotics Prosecutor Bridget Brennan, even though they are clearly to be sold on the black market.

Unlike, for example, someone caught with heroin, police can't arrest someone they see holding a bag of prescription drugs. Since it's not illegal to have prescription drugs, an arrest can only be made if the cops can catch them specifically selling the pills.

At a Council hearing yesterday, Brennan pushed for sup-

Questions for the proposed legislation

Midwood Councilman David Greenfield said he was concerned that people who simply ordered prescriptions they actually need in bulk would be punished. These people, he worried, would be arrested just because they needed pain pills for serious conditions.

"I'm honestly afraid that you may end up killing people by creating such a low threshold," he said.

Brennan stressed that prosecutors are going after drug rings, not medical patients.

55%

According to a DEA study, 55 percent of prescription pill abusers got drugs from family or friends for free, and 11 percent bought them from those same sources. Five percent took them without asking.

port for state legislation that would make it a misdemeanor to have 20 pills or pills worth more than \$200.

Having more than 50 pills, or worth more than \$500, would be a felony under the proposed legislation.

This would allow cops to arrest people dealing the pills, officials said.

Prescription pill abuse is "skyrocketing" in New York

City, Brennan said, adding that these cases make up 20 percent of their caseload.

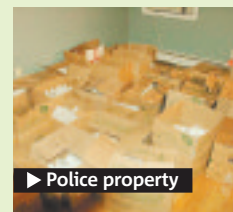
In 2011, nearly 2 million prescriptions for oxycodone and hydrocodone were filled in New York City, or about one for every four New Yorkers.

Brennan said drug addiction is fueling thefts, such as a drug store robbery in East Harlem on April 12 where the shooter was killed.

"That wild gun battle was a reminder of the problem we face," Brennan said.

Doctors are part of the problem — some sell prescriptions, cops said. But catching them can be tough.

"It's very hard to send in an undercover into a doctor's office and get on tape that the doctor somehow knew that he didn't need the pills," Queens assistant district attorney Philip Anderson said.



OD deaths 'soaring'

Overdose deaths are "soaring," Brennan said.

Deaths from painkiller overdoses increased by 20 percent from 2005 to 2009, from 2 per 100,000 New Yorkers to 2.4, according to Council statistics.

In that same time frame in Staten Island, that increase

was 147 percent — from 3 to 7.4 deaths per 100,000 New Yorkers.

A Brooklyn prosecutor told of a man who died of an overdose this year in Dyker Heights — people were selling pills at the funeral, he said.

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Tarmac. Trouble



► Byrdie only shut down plane traffic for about 10 minutes, from about 10:21 a.m. to 10:31 a.m. She was put back on the plane and her flight took off for Memphis 20 minutes later.

GETTY IMAGES

Pausing for paws on the loose at LaGuardia Airport

This pooch wanted to be Air Bud! A dog held up departures at LaGuardia Airport yesterday morning after it ran out onto the runway. The 30-pound puppy, a Rhodesian Ridgeback named Byrdie, somehow escaped from its cage as it was being loaded onto a Delta flight bound for Memphis. Port Authority workers chased the dog down Runway 31, but were unable to cajole the puppy to come back. At one point the dog even laid down on the tarmac. The only way they were able to get Byrdie back was to bring the owner off the plane. As soon as Byrdie saw her, she trotted right over. METRO/CB

Man says lover stole \$500,000 worth of jewels

TRIBECA. Police are now looking for a woman who they said is suspected of stealing more than \$500,000 worth of rare jewels from a man after the two slept together.

According to the New York Post, the victim, a gem trader based in Midtown, said he met the woman on April 17 at Whiskey Bar on Central Park South. He had been drinking heavily and the two chatted for about 45 minutes.

She suggested they get a room at the Cosmopolitan Hotel in Tribeca.

She used his credit card to pay for the cab fare there, as well as to purchase herself a \$500 gift card from CVS and a box of condoms.

After they had sex, he fell asleep, he said. That's when she made a run for it — allegedly taking with her his briefcase containing more than \$500,000 worth of diamonds. METRO/CB

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Opinion

**KATE D.
LEVIN**

COMMISSIONER, NEW YORK CITY
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF POEMS IN OUR POCKETS

People of all backgrounds engage with words and rhymes on a daily basis, from famous poets and spoken word artists to Broadway lyricists and rap sensations.

In schools, poetry allows students to explore the diversity and power of language. Outside of the classroom, there is no better place than New York to celebrate the beauty of words, both spoken and written. And no better day than Poem in Your Pocket to share verses with one another.

Mayor Bloomberg's poem "50.5 Million Can't Be Wrong" highlights New York City's record number of visitors last year and all the museums, parks, and wonderful spaces they come to experience. Today, the 10th anniversary of "Poem in Your Pocket" Day, the mayor's poem, winning "Poetweets," and other well-known lines can be seen on MTV's 44-and-a-half-foot-wide screen in Times

Square, which we're temporarily renaming "The 'Cross Odes' of the World."

In addition, the MTA has launched a second phase of the "Poetry in Motion" series, which is expanding to feature poems in both subways and taxis.

Throughout this exciting day, help us continue the tradition. It's easy — find a favorite poem, put it in your pocket, and don't forget to share it with your friends, family and colleagues.

Happy Poem in Your Pocket Day!

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send 100-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

'Poetweet'

winners

These are the five winning tweets selected by Mayor Bloomberg from more than 300 submissions to his annual Twitter "Poetweet" contest, held from April 6-20. These "poetweets," along

with Bloomberg's poem and others will be broadcast from MTV's 44-and-a-half-foot TV screen in Times Square today.

► @AlexHonigsberg
New York's sakura-strewn streets/Rivers of pink sing/Beauty in the fragility of life/Bonds with our sister-city Tokyo/Arigato. #nycpoetweet

NYC MAYOR'S OFFICE



'50.5 Million Can't be Wrong'

By Mayor Michael Bloomberg
Poem in Your Pocket Day 2012



Hey there, fella! Lady, hey!
Didja hear? It's "Poem in Your Pocket Day!"
Tenth anniversary — the bubbly's flowing
People are cheering ... yelling ... Tebowing

Where best to celebrate this whole affair?
The Crossroads of the World — Times Square
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From across the globe, they visit here
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Bronx Zoo?	(Take the 5 or the 2)
Rockefeller Center?	(Walk 6 blocks, then enter)
Empire State?	(Bus to Fifth, then go straight)
Ferry to Staten?	(At the tip of Manhattan)
Unisphere in Queens?	(Get there via several means)
NY Aquarium?	(Too far for kids to walk. Just carry 'em)
"Mamma Mia"?	(Right behind you. See ya.)

So on this big birthday of PIYP
Have a fantastic day in NYC
Take in the town — there is so much here to do!
(Just have a Poem in Your Pocket when you do)

► **@Jade_Stylistics**
City of dreamers/Keep moving to realize/No slumber needed #NYCpoetweet

► **@Rocklander**
I put a poem into my pocket and left behind my wallet. Verily replied the token clerk when I asked would he take a sonnet. #NYCpoetweet

► **@MAHAHaiku**
Bought a new cell phone/I didn't like the last one/It only made calls. #NYCpoetweet #Haiku #Poetry

► **@Janetsomerville**
The art deco crown of the Chrysler Building/Bends to exchange intimacies/With Grand Central's eagle/State secrets #NYCpoetweet

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Other options to solve the geese problem

Tuesday night's incident at Westchester County Airport is the second time geese hit a plane in the New York metro area in the past week. Last Thursday, a Delta jet hit geese when it took

off from JFK. In that incident, the cabin filled with smoke but the plane made a safe emergency landing.

There are an estimated 25,000 geese in New York City. Other than killing them, what can be done?

Birnkrant proposes using bird radar technology, which she said the Air Force uses. She said it

detects flocks of birds, and pilots either delay takeoff or maneuver around the birds.

She also suggested modifying the birds' natural habitat at the Jamaica Bay Refuge, such as planting trees and shrubs to hide the Kentucky bluegrass that grows there. That grass, she said, "is like candy to the geese." ● METRO/CB

Sen. wants more geese killed after 2nd plane strike

GETTY IMAGES



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► More than 25,000 Canada geese call New York City home.

It's open season on Canada geese, if Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand has her way.

Yesterday, the day after a plane in Westchester County had to make an emergency landing after two geese struck its windshield, Gillibrand introduced legislation that she vows will "cut the bureaucratic red tape" and allow "for the swift removal of Canada geese" from around the city's airports.

In the past, geese have been removed by being rounded up, stuffed into crates and gassed to death by agents with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

For the past two years now, the USDA has culled geese within a 7-mile radius of John F. Kennedy and LaGuardia airports. Under a plan supported by Mayor Michael Bloomberg, USDA agents killed 1,509 wild geese in parks throughout New York City and 167 more in Long Island in 2010. Last year, 575 geese were killed.

But they've been unable to get into one area that is the main home of the birds: The Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, a 9,000-acre estuary and bird sanctuary that surrounds JFK's runways. The refuge is maintained by the National Park Service, and the federal government has been resistant to allowing USDA agents there until it can complete an environmental impact study.

Gillibrand's proposed legislation would not only allow agents into the preserve, but it would also require them to kill the birds during their June and July molting season.

"That's when their new flight feathers are coming in and they can't fly," said Edita Birnkrant, the New York director of Friends of Animals. "They get them when they're flightless. They pen them and they can't fly away."



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Adults and goslings killed

Geese are nesting right now, said Birnkrant, so it's both adult geese and goslings that will be killed under Gillibrand's plan.

Birnkrant called Gillibrand's suggestion to

kill more birds "a knee-jerk reaction that won't work."

"We can't get rid of every bird in the city, and deciding to slaughter them is counterproductive," she said. "Wildlife re-populates itself. Even if they do kill the geese, more will come back to these areas because it's an attractive place to live."

'I WILL NEVER FORGET TODAY'

WINNER



COURTNEY SACCO/METRO

► Physics student from Boston beats hundreds for ticket to outer space
 ► Justin Dowd to undergo training for space flight scheduled for 2014

Justin Dowd from Worcester, Mass., has won the Race for Space, the global competition to select one Metro reader to travel into space.

Dowd, 22, beat thousands of candidates from across the globe to win a the coveted once-in-a-lifetime ticket on board XCOR Lynx, the first generation rocket-powered spaceplane currently being built by leading spaceflight company SXC.

Dowd has both the mental and physical smarts needed to be a perfect astronaut. Dowd, a physics and maths under-

graduate at Boston's Northeastern University, wowed the judging panel with his stunning chalkboard stop motion video on Einstein's theory of relativity. Meanwhile, Dowd has been training for a grueling 12-mile endurance obstacle course race.

"My motivation for him is that he really provides an amazing package in the combined qualities of scientific background, artistic qualities, dedication and the gift to tell a fascinating story," Harry Van Hulten, test pilot with SXC

and global jury member that selected Dowd.

"He is absolutely unique. He taught me things in his video that I didn't understand as well as I do now. He really blew me away with that. I can't think of any better ambassador to tell the story about this space trip than him."

Dowd will receive astronaut training ahead of the trip scheduled for 2014. The "civilian astronaut" will be able to chronicle his preparations and space flight itself in a series of reports published

in Metro across the globe.

In reacting to the news, Dowd told Metro, "I'm the luckiest guy in the world and for about 20 minutes, I'll be the luckiest guy in outer space!"

Dowd added that it's "an absolute honor" to be the part of the world's first space mission to be launched by a newspaper. "To say this is a once-in-a-lifetime event is an understatement. This is the first time ever this sort of mission is happening and I am elated to be a part of history."

● METRO



► Justin Dowd of Worcester, Mass., won Metro's contest to take a trip to space.

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myentertainment

THE WORD



Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip [@dorothyatmetro](#) dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Chris Brown is breeding, selling pit bull puppies

Chris Brown and his family are selling pit bull puppies online — for \$1,000 a pop.

The media was tipped off to the pop star's new business venture by his mother, who tweeted a link to the dog-selling site, along with a picture of Brown cuddling one of the puppies. A rep for the singer confirmed to The Associated Press on Tuesday that Brown and his family are indeed selling the 2-month-old pit bulls online. The publicist's spin on the high price tag is that Brown, whom she defines as "an animal lover," "wants to make sure the dogs go to a good home."

Look, dog breeding is one thing. But breeding pit bulls? That's especially irresponsible. According to recent stats from the Humane Society, 70 percent of dogs housed and eutha-



► This guy again.

nized in urban animal shelter systems are pit bulls. An even more depressing statistic from the Los Angeles Humane Society says that around 200 pit bulls in L.A. alone are euthanized every day due to overbreeding and lack of adoption opportunities. The point being: Shelters are overrun with the breed, and thousands upon thousands are killed every year because no one will adopt them. And yet, Brown is selling each puppy for \$1,000? Gross.

I'm channeling my inner **Bob Barker** when I say I'm pretty sure the way for Brown to show that he's a true "animal lover" is to make sure his pets are spayed and neutered — and not to breed and then sell them on a website. Especially when, come on — does he really need the money?



► Hubba hubba: The couple back in 2004.

Ashton and Mila: It's on!

Ashton Kutcher and **Mila Kunis** may have denied last week's reports that they've become more than just friends, but their recent activities aren't doing much to help that assertion. The two reportedly shared a weekend getaway up the California coast, according to People magazine. Witnesses spotted Kutcher and Kunis headed to Carpinteria, Calif., where they

grabbed lunch and some fresh fruit Friday — and didn't surface again until Sunday morning. A source close to Kutcher says something like this has been in the cards since their "That 70s Show" days. "He was so in love with her for a while when they worked together," says the source. "He thought she was a goddess, was always talking about how beautiful she is. But she was with **Macaulay [Culkin]** for a lot of that time and also just generally gave off a not interested vibe."



The feed ...

► Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Kathy Griffin is worried for her safety, Ryan Seacrest is looking to travel more, Cher is trying to understand the nuances of Twitter and Patton Oswalt can see the future.

@kathygriffin
I agreed 2 b on @ryanseacrest tomorrow AM 2 promote #KATHY. If I don't return, check his basement & tell my Mom I love her

@RyanSeacrest
Still haven't hit enough frequent flyer miles for a wings pin...

@cher
Whats Fail Whale?

@pattonoswalt
In 2081, China & India will buy the United States on Craigslist.



Cher

Talking points

Beyonce named People's Most Beautiful

Beyonce's beauty secret? Having a baby. "I feel more beautiful than I've ever felt because I've given birth," the singer tells People magazine, which named her the 2012 World's Most Beautiful Woman. "I have never felt so connected, never felt like I had such a purpose on this earth." Beyonce and husband **Jay-Z** welcomed daughter **Blue Ivy Carter** three months ago. "The best thing about having a daughter is having a true legacy," Beyonce adds. "The word 'love' means something com-



pletely different now."

Lawrence and wife to divorce

Martin Lawrence and his wife, **Shamicka**, are calling it quits after 17 years together, according to E! News. The "Big Mom-

ma's House" star says in a statement that they made a "joint decision to go our separate ways." Martin and Shamicka were an item for 15 years before finally tying the knot in 2010. "Out of love and respect for one another we will continue to remain friends and raise our two beautiful daughters together," Martin says.

Ozzy is a grandfather

Jack Osbourne and his fiancée, **Lisa Stelly**, are the proud parents of a newborn baby girl, welcoming daughter **Pearl** on Tuesday, his rep confirms to People magazine. It's the first grandchild for Ozzy and Sharon Osbourne. Sharon previously announced her intentions of spoiling the new addition. "I'm going to be the

grandmother from hell because I am going to spoil this baby so bad," she told People earlier this year. "My son and Lisa are going to be like, 'Get her out of here!'"

Efron loved love scenes with Kidman

Zac Efron has had his share of on-screen girlfriends, but there's one that stands above the rest: **Nicole Kidman**, whom Efron connects with in "The Paperboy," their upcoming film. "It was everything you dreamed of," Efron tells Australia's Daybreak. "She was such a lovely person. I pinched myself every day, especially after doing love scenes with Nicole Kidman. Nicole is so gorgeous."



Efron

Jenna Fischer is not above cleaning messy bathrooms

► The Hollywood superstar did what it took to finish her new movie, 'The Giant Mechanical Man' on time ► Plus: Secrets from 'The Office' finale

Jenna Fischer can now add "producer" to her résumé — "The Giant Mechanical Man" marks the first time she's co-produced a movie and, as she tells it, she was willing to do anything to get it done — even if the jobs weren't all that glamorous. Did we mention that she's also the film's leading lady? Fischer plays Janice, a woman who's unsure about the path she's on as an adult.

We heard you shot this movie in 19 days.

We shot the movie in the dead of winter, in Detroit, in 19 days. It was actually so invigorating and exciting to be part of something that was just so indie, I have to say. And everyone just came together and they were

so up for it. Chris [Messina, her co-star] had one day off and on his day off he worked with the crew as a camera assistant. I had a couple mornings off and I would come to set and clean the bathroom. If there's like 50 people all using one restroom it gets messy — you gotta go in there and clean it up, make sure there's hand towels, you know, stuff like that. That was the producing side of me — someone has to do it, right? A producer's list is very long. It includes very important contract negotiations all the way down to toilet paper in the bathroom. **Have you ever had an experience like Janice, where you weren't sure about the direction your life was taking?** Of course. I mean, that's at my

Q&A

Will you try producing again?

► I hope. I actually really enjoyed producing and acting at the same time. It's hard for me, as an actor when I'm on set, to just sit and wait to act. I feel this, like, anticipation to perform. When they light a scene ... it takes an hour and a half and the actor has nothing to do during that time. That's always a time that makes me feel very nervous because I'm just thinking about my lines and my performance, so being able to produce in that hour and a half was such a nice distraction.

core. I feel like my personality doesn't really reflect that side of me as much anymore. I'm a very driven person, I think way more driven than, say, Pam [from "The Office"] or Janice. In middle school I felt very invisible. I had a lot of dreams that I didn't know how to accomplish and I wondered if they would ever come true, and I was very shy. I definitely know what it feels like to live life in the background. I don't know if this is true of everyone, but I feel like who we were in middle school really stays with you. So I come to these events and I have the hair and the makeup and the jewelry and they put these cute dresses on me, but I feel like the girl who didn't have Guess jeans and an Ex-



► Jenna Fischer stars as an unfulfilled adult in "The Giant Mechanical Man," currently screening at the Tribeca Film Festival. It opens in NYC on Friday.

press shirt, looking at all the other pretty girls wondering if I'll ever have my day in the sun. So I love playing these characters because they feel like me. It feels like dress up to do all the fancy stuff.

What's coming up on "The Office"?

The last episode is called "Family Portrait Studio," and Jim and I bring our kids in for a family

portrait. I don't want to give anything away, but I loved our family portrait so much that I asked for a copy because it's so funny. That's our finale: Dwight sets up a photo studio in the office, and Jim is afraid that it is all an elaborate prank to steal our children.



MEREDITH ENGEL
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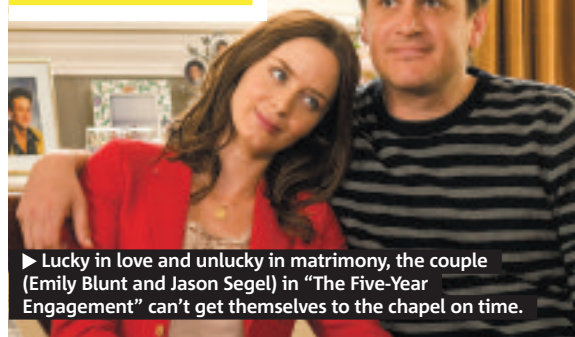
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my metro

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2012

myentertainment

Top 5 films



► **Lucky in love and unlucky in matrimony**, the couple (Emily Blunt and Jason Segel) in "The Five-Year Engagement" can't get themselves to the chapel on time.

2 **'Safe'** Never one to appear in a film and not handle some kind of firearm, Jason Statham stars as an ex-cage fighter attempting to save a young girl from the Russian mob.

3 **'The Raven'** John Cusack is Edgar Allen Poe on the trail of a serial killer who designs his murders after Poe's stories.

4 **'The Pirates! Band of Misfits'** The studio responsible for "Chicken Run" delivers a pirating adventure voiced by Hugh Grant and Salma Hayek.

Must-see

1 **'The Five-Year Engagement'** Jason Segel and Emily Blunt star in this Judd Apatow-produced comedy as an engaged couple who dodge one obstacle after another to get to their wedding day.

5 **'Think Like a Man'** Steve Harvey's best-selling book, "Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man," gets a screen adaptation.

● METRO

TV watch list

ALL GOLDSTEIN/NBC



► Tina Fey stars as Liz Lemon — live! — on "30 Rock."

'30 Rock'

COMEDY. The sitcom from "Saturday Night Live" vet Tina Fey takes a cue from her late-night days and once again broadcasts live (the comedy also went live in 2010). Ironically, tonight's plot finds Kabletown ordering "The Girlie Show" to start pre-taping episodes. **8:30 p.m., NBC**

'Don't Be Tardy for the Wedding'

REALITY. The lead-up to the wedding of Real Housewife Kim Zolciak and football player Kroy Biermann is chronicled in this new special, which could surely double as an episode of "Bridezillas." **Series premiere, 9 p.m., Bravo** ● **AMBER RAY**

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Fri. 5/4	4 PM-6 PM	Jackson Heights Library
Sat. 5/5	10 AM-12 PM	New Amsterdam Library

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How to deal with a bossy partner

Exercise more. Lower your voice. Spend more time with me. Everybody wants to tell you what to do — especially the person you are with. We have even read about Brad Pitt's concern that Angelina Jolie isn't eating enough. Does he get on her case at home? In a restaurant, does he turn into a bossy spouse? If your spouse or partner does, how can you stop the demands from making you feel like you are being controlled?

There are lots of things we are comfortable doing that irritate our significant other, who has no qualms about voicing his or her frustrations. When your partner tells you what to do, the knee-jerk reaction is to get defensive. Faced with a mandate, you might either fight back or just shut down, keeping your anger on a low flame. Sometimes, the demands can even

Shrink Wrap



DR. JANE GREER

HEALTH.METRO.US

prompt you to do the opposite as a protest against being bossed around. But it doesn't have to be that way.

The next time your partner gives you an order — slow down when you drive, stop drinking soda, don't smoke, be more affectionate — instead of feeling immediately angry and walking away, initiate a conversation. Ask why your loved one is concerned. What is your partner most worried about? Once he or she can share concerns about your driving speed (it's for your safety), smoking habit (it's for your health) or how

much time you can give to the relationship (your partner wants to feel special), then you will be able to hear the love instead of the contempt that comes across in the bossy demands. With that, you might feel motivated to work together and even deal with some of the behaviors that may be causing you potential harm. If you are aware of the issues, explain that you understand and are already working on them.

So often we don't hear our loved one's real worries and needs because their concern comes through as criticism. The next time your partner tells you to do something, ask why he or she cares instead of tuning out and dismissing the comment. Instead of causing a fight, it might be an opportunity to better understand how much you are loved.

— Relationship expert Dr. Jane Greer is the creator of "Shrink Wrap" — national commentary on what we can learn from celebrity relationships — and host of "Let's Talk Sex" at HealthyLife.net. Her book, "What About Me? Stop Selfishness From Ruining Your Relationship," is available nationwide.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.



▶ Who's telling who what to do in this coupling?

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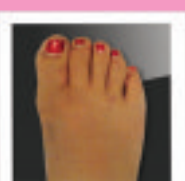
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Letters

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Monetary policy:
The lowdown

RE: "WHAT IS ROMNEY PROPOSING FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS?": Sehrish Sultan's letter asks what Romney is going to give the middle class. While Obama will give them health insurance by borrowing from China, devaluing the dollar and forcing young adults to overpay for coverage, Romney will put our economy back on track and give them jobs!

JIM FLETCHER, VIA E-MAIL

Yes, Mr. Connell, I was describing monetary policy — which, last I checked, still falls under the realm of economic policy. What happens when you increase the supply of a good? The price — or value — per unit goes down. Fiat paper money is no different. Increase the supply of Federal

Reserve Notes and the value per dollar will go down. The traditional definition of inflation is an increase in the supply of money. Price inflation is a consequence of monetary inflation: If you have more money chasing the same amount of goods, then the price of goods will go up while the value of your money has gone down.

KELLY DONNOE, LYNBROOK

Connell and Donnoe are both a little confused about economics. It's a GOP scare tactic to say that the Fed is printing money, which suggests a permanent increase. Most economists agree that when the main danger is deflation, the Fed should increase liquidity (money supply) by buying bonds from financial institutions. That increases their cash and

thus their reserves. That allows more lending. When the main danger becomes inflation, the Fed can suck that money back out of the economy by selling bonds. Also, selling more bonds helps decrease their value, which increases the interest rates needed to sell bonds. The increase in interest rates helps slow inflation. Recently, most inflation has been due to China's demand for commodities and Iran's war games. That price increase slows the rest of the economy. **HARRY THORN, VIA E-MAIL**

Newt Gingrich may
have job opening

Just found out Newt is out. Will he join the Secret Service? I heard there's openings in that department.

JIM ALVIN, BROOKLYN

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Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

GSA scandal is bad;
wars much costlier

Every news channel is screaming about the \$800,000 wasted by a government agency that is supposed to keep an eye on government waste. It's too bad they didn't scream about over 4,000 soldiers who lost their lives or the billions of dollars wasted by the Bush administration on a war based on lies about WMDs. But I guess reporting that Lindsey Lohan was drunk again took priority.

ROBERT LA ROSA, WHITESTONE

Here's a good idea:
Let's work together?

Our president, Obama, stepped into office with such problems that could have easily could have continued to worsen. Obama has initiated a turnaround, although slow. If Republicans and Democrats would have worked together more (can that ever happen?!) then our turnaround would be faster.

DOMINIC LAMPASI, BABYLON

Horoscope

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Your inability to evaluate information that is essential to your plans could be due to not having all the necessary info at your disposal. Don't try to make a call without all the facts.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Disappointment is likely if you build your expectations upon questionable premises. It's good to be optimistic, but only if you're also in touch with reality.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** If you want others to accept you and treat you nicely, you must first reach out to them. Keep being warm and friendly, even when you get the cold shoulder. They'll come around.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** The only person you have to genuinely please is you. If you think you've done your best to be warm and giving, you don't need any additional applause.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Be careful not to commit any selfish acts or act indifferently to someone who is nice to you. If you do so, it will be quite a while before you can look at yourself in the mirror again.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Be observant, because someone you recently met might not be everything that he or she pretends to be. When this person has to perform under pressure, this will become apparent to

you.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Should a friend come to you for advice, instead of telling your pal what you think she or he wants to hear, tell the truth. Be kind about it, and you'll do a world of good.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Your ability to recognize a real bargain might not be operating very well. If something is expensive, sleep on it for a while before committing a sizable chunk of change.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Something might arise that could force you to choose between feathering your own nest or helping out a friend, partner or loved one. You can't have your cake and eat it too.

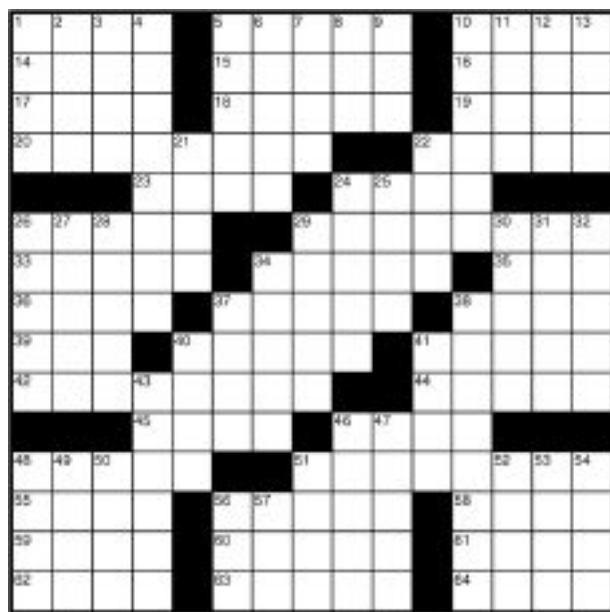
♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Be extremely selective of your choice of companions, because what they do will reflect on you for either good or ill. Don't gain a bad reputation based on your friends.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** You could find yourself involved in a social event where everybody but you knows one another, leaving you feeling like an outsider. If you can, take a friend along.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Your personal ambitions and your abilities might not complement one another. It's OK to want certain things, but only if you have the ability to get what you desire. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

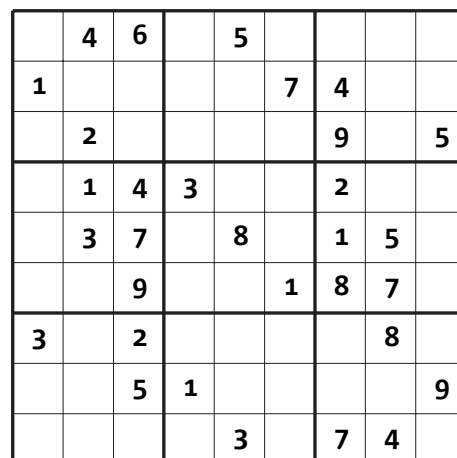
Across

- 1 Flatter oneself
- 5 Neck annoyance
- 10 Stoic founder
- 14 Cowardly Lion por-trayer
- 15 Vicious elephant
- 16 Plenty, old-style
- 17 Greek mountain
- 18 It divides to multiply (var.)
- 19 Hop a train
- 20 Rougher, as water
- 22 Augured
- 23 Kelly's possum
- 24 Limp-watch painter
- 26 Slight
- 29 Checking and savings
- 33 Desert transport
- 34 Daring deeds
- 35 Fiber-rich grain
- 36 Kind of hog
- 37 Rock or country
- 38 Big Dipper bear
- 39 "___ Gratia Artis"
- 40 Pert
- 41 Venezuela falls
- 42 Lead astray
- 44 Moonshine maker
- 45 Camera's eye
- 46 Yawn
- 48 "Nutcracker" costumes
- 51 Shuffleboard need (2 wds.)
- 55 Bohr's study
- 56 Robin ___ of ballads
- 58 Plot inconsistency
- 59 Tiny stream
- 60 Soft drink brand
- 61 Prince William's school
- 62 Join forces
- 63 Cheyenne abode
- 64 Engrossed
- Down**
- 1 Coalition



- 2 Unthought-out
- 3 Mr. Moto remark (2 wds.)
- 4 Wrestled with
- 5 Latest 007
- 6 "Balcony scene" swain
- 7 Disney CEO Bob ___
- 8 Wrigley Field player
- 9 Green parrot
- 10 Aim exactly (2 wds.)
- 11 Oklahoma town
- 12 Twig juncture
- 13 Used plastic
- 14 Gather opinions
- 22 Le Sage's "Gil ___"
- 24 Pepys' book
- 25 Before, in combos
- 26 Take a powder
- 27 N.Z. native
- 28 Pile up
- 29 Rural sight
- 30 Welsh dog
- 31 Van Gogh's stand
- 32 Play for time
- 34 Ongoing hostilities
- 37 Weigh more
- 38 Let loose
- 40 Brings action

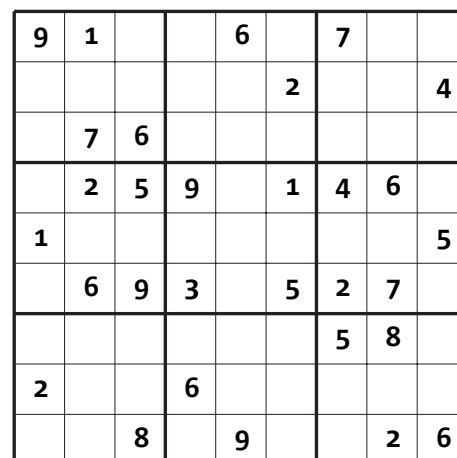
- 41 Deadly snakes
- 43 Not cheerfully
- 46 Pretense
- 47 Nest on a crag
- 48 Mitchell mansion
- 49 Mo. expense
- 50 Turnpike fee
- 51 Yokums' creator
- 52 Pinch
- 53 Filly's footfall
- 54 English county
- 56 Two-BR unit
- 57 Billy ___ Williams



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Solution to
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crossword

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events

GETTY IMAGES

Moved by the light

► Featuring honoree Martin Scorsese and host Simon Doonan, the 2012 Moth Ball commemorates the The Moth's 15th anniversary

► The Executive Director of the storytelling nonprofit explains the significance of the oral tradition

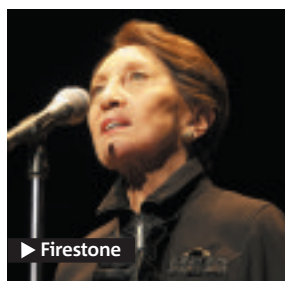


► The Moth Ball: "A Night in Storyville," hosted by Simon Doonan, right, and featuring Martin Scorsese, inset, takes place Tuesday, May 8, at Capitale (130 Bowery). Tickets are \$350 for the Gala Dinner and \$195 for the cocktail party and show only. For more information, visit www.themoth.org.

Back in 1997, poet-novelist George Dawes Green sought enlightenment from an unlikely place. Convinced we had stopped listening to each other, he decided that the best way to reach people was through the oldest but most universal mode of all communication: storytelling. So, on a Georgia porch deck, he opened a forum for fellowship and called it The Moth.

Fast-forward 15 years to New York City. Here, stoops and fire escapes outnumber porches, and it's hard to capture that same Southern hospitality. But The Moth — a social network connected through tales told face to face — has never been about place. Rather, it's about community. The nonprofit has facilitated the sharing of more than 3,000 extraordinary stories presented by ordinary people — live and without notes.

Next week, at "A Night at Storyville," you can dine, drink and dance the night away in celebration of The Moth's milestone 15th anniversary. The an-



► Firestone

Q&A

The Moth gained mainstream popularity in a short period time. To what do you attribute its success?

► We've not only restored the tradition, but also honed it. The secret is that we have made storytelling into an art form that is being respected as such. We have directors who help crack the stories without interfering with the integrity of the storyteller. They feel connected to something.

nual Moth Ball gala and cocktail party will be held at Capitale and hosted by author and raconteur extraordinaire Simon Doonan. In addition to awarding a scholarship to a graduate of its community education program MothSHOP, the organization will honor director Martin Scorsese for his achievements in the art of storytelling. "There's not one film of his that isn't based on an extraordinary story that shares a sense of humanity with everyone who watches," beams Joan Firestone, executive director of The Moth. To prepare us for the celebrity-studded benefit, we asked Firestone what it takes for something as simple as a story to sell out venues, illuminate the stage and attract loyal followers.

Why is the ritual of storytelling so necessary today?

It connects people. When people react to the stories, they bring something special to it. Listening opens up new possibilities. Many of us don't think we're interesting, we don't

think we have anything to say. But when we're taught how to express ourselves, and given a context in which to do it, it binds us.

What makes a great storyteller? I will quote our founder who says [its] vulnerability. Truth, not being afraid to be vulnerable is something we shoot for in a Moth story. They can be humorous, they can be satiric — but at the same time, they're honest.

There are currently six branches of The Moth. What's on the horizon?

We're concerned about maintaining the quality of our branding, and so we're moving carefully to remain consistent. For example, the slam projects are moving into more cities. We're expanding our cooperation with radio stations and the communities into which we move. The main stage will also be moving on the road to the cities where we already have a major constituency.

GINA ANGELOTTI
gina.angelotti@metro.us

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10	1 Bedroom	1 2	\$710	\$28,400 \$28,400	\$34,860 \$39,840
9	2 Bedroom	2 3 4	\$860	\$34,400 \$34,400 \$34,400	\$39,840 \$44,820 \$49,800

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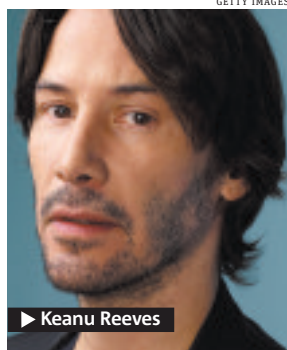
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listings

The roundup

FILM

Future of Film Lunch Series
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Hosted by filmmaker (and founding host-producer on Current TV) Max Lugavere, the series brings together filmmakers and online creatives including "Paranor-



Keanu Reeves

mal Activity" producer Jason Blum, Tumblr's David Karp, College Humor founder Ricky Van Veen, Andrew Weissman (partner at Union Square Ventures), and more. **LEAH TAYLOR**

Drink and Discuss: 'Side by Side'
Tonight, 9, Bowlmor Lanes, 110 University Place, free with RSVP at www.flavorpill.com
In conjunction with Tribeca Film Festival, Heineken is giving you the chance to share a brew with cast and crew from

three festival highlights. Following the TFF screenings, join the folks behind "Side by Side" featuring Keanu Reeves interviewing some of the film industry's biggest names. **LT**

BOOKS

Eat Drink & Be Literary with Aleksander Hemon
Tonight, 6:30 to 9, BAM, 30 Lafayette Ave., \$50
Hemon's "The Lazarus Project" was a finalist for the 2008 National Book Award. His work has appeared in several respected literary magazines, and he received a MacArthur Foundation "genius grant." He speaks at BAM's food and lit series where dinner, wine, tax, and tip are included. **JASON DIAMOND**

ARTS

Drew Friedman: 'My Way'
Friday through May 31, Scott Eder Gallery, 18 Bridge St., Vinegar Hill, free
Friedman is the reigning king

of the caricature, and for this, his first New York gallery show, he will be displaying works dating back from 1982 to the present. **JD**

DANCE

Quintron and Miss Pussycat
Saturday, 8 p.m., 285 Kent, Williamsburg
Of all the dance parties you could attend, none would even compare to the insane organ-driven swamp boogie created by New Orleans' favorite son, Quintron. Along with his wife-puppeteer-cheerleader, Miss Pussycat, the wild organ sounds will be bumping off the walls of 285 Kent. **JD**

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Saturday, noon to 2 p.m., Brooklyn Bridge Park, 1 Main St., free
Saturday is World Record Day. Do you have any plans to break a world record? We suggest joining up with the world record attempt for the largest rainbow parade. Because if there are two things that are totally good and awesome, they're world records and parades. **JD**

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A Central Park Walk

Sunday, 3 to 4:30 p.m., Central Park, \$15
NYC is home to some of the most beautiful public parks in the country. Jon Cotner, co-author of "Ten Walks/Two Talks," is leading a tour of the king of all NYC parks to celebrate National Landscape Month. The walk meets at the southwest corner of Sheep Meadow. **JD**

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QB Luck follows in footsteps of Mannings

The irony behind No. 1 pick Andrew Luck is that his journey to the NFL closely mirrors the pedigree of Peyton Manning, the quarterback he will replace in Indianapolis.

Andrew, the son of former NFL quarterback Oliver Luck, was seemingly bred to be an NFL signal caller.

Oliver Luck even backed up Archie Manning when the two

ON TV TONIGHT
2012 NFL Draft — First Round
8 p.m., ESPN/NFLN

were on the Houston Oilers in the early 1980s.

"I guess it's interesting," Andrew Luck said at last month's Maxwell Awards in Atlantic City. "I have had a chance to know the Manning family and



► Luck

they are great, unbelievable people."

Luck's skill set makes him as attractive a top pick since, well, Peyton Manning was taken No. 1 overall in 1998.

Perhaps that should be no surprise since Luck had the opportunity to attend the famed Manning Passing Camp prior to high school.

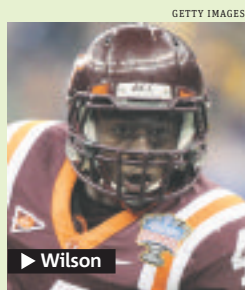
"As an eighth grader I was a

camper, and the past two summers I was a counselor," he said. "It was a great experience."

"The Mannings do such a great job of letting college quarterbacks get together and coach these kids and sort of congregate as a fraternity of quarterbacks, per se. It's a great experience. They're the nicest family." ● METRO/KD

And the pick is ...

► NFL draft begins tonight ► Jets have a solid foundation, but in more need than defending champions ► We look at possibilities for both teams



► Wilson

Giants in an enviable draft position

The Giants are the defending champions, but that doesn't mean they don't have holes to fill.

Big Blue rode a magical hot streak to win Super Bowl XLVI last season, but for most of the year they were an inconsistent squad that could beat the likes of New England and Green Bay but also get swept by Washington.

General manager Jerry Reese noted the Giants will need to revamp certain units on the team, but was adamant he would not select a player solely on need, but rather pick the "best player available that will help our football team, regardless of position."

During a recent press conference, Reese said the value on their draft board and overall grade value would always trump a hole on a depth chart.

Although the Giants' brass didn't name potential draftees, some of the first-round grades likely include tight end Coby Fleener of Stanford and running backs David Wilson of Virginia Tech and Doug Martin of Boise State. ● TONY WILLIAMS

Over the past three seasons, the Jets have had just 13 combined draft picks, in large part due to the team moving up to pick Mark Sanchez at No. 5 in the 2009 NFL draft.

This year, sitting on 10 picks, general manager Mike Tannenbaum has the flexibility to move up in the draft and yet still add some depth to a team that was hard hit by injuries last year.

Conventional wisdom — and most mock drafts — holds that the Jets will likely take either a defensive lineman or outside linebacker with their first-round pick, No. 16 overall. "We'd just like to add a little depth at that position," Tannenbaum said. "Also, I think we need to look at, I think seven of the eight outside linebackers on our board were college defensive ends. That's just the way it is."

The names that resonate the most with the Jets are North Carolina's Quinton Coples, South Carolina's Melvin Ingram and Alabama's Courtney Upshaw — all of whom could fit well in the Jets' 3-4 scheme.

"Coples is a phenomenal athlete. He probably played better as a junior than he did this season," said vice president of college scouting Joey Clinkscales. "Obviously, Ingram, this was his breakout year; he is a one-year starter. And Courtney Upshaw, they won a national championship. He's a physical, strong, aggressive player."

KRISTIAN DYER
sports@metro.us

Trent Richardson, RB, Alabama

The scoop: Don't laugh. Given the number of picks the Jets have this year, it wouldn't be a surprise to see general manager Mike Tannenbaum move up to the third pick and grab a marquee running back. With no LaDainian Tomlinson this year, the Jets could use another running back and Richardson could grow into a franchise-type player at the position. We know new offensive coordinator Tony Sparano wants to get back to the ground and pound running game, so Richardson would be a major addition.



Richardson had 21 TDs last year.

Under the radar



The first round is all about studs we know, but there will be plenty of steals to be had on both tomorrow and Friday. We look at a few:

- **DT Ronnie Cameron (ODU)** A small-college player who has risen up draft boards and is now being eyed by both the Jets and the Colts.
- **QB Dan Di Lella (Albany)** Impressed at Rutgers Pro Day, where he was an invited participant. He's strong, raw and played in college with Sparano's son.
- **LB Delano Johnson (Bowling Green)** A former high school basketball standout who was offered a walk-on at Maryland.

Dontari Poe, DT, Memphis

The scoop: He's drawn comparisons to Raven Haloti Ngata — a former Rex Ryan player. The 346-pounder shot up draft boards after posting a 4.98 in the 40 at the combine. He also benched 44 reps at 225 pounds. Poe is another guy that screams raw talent, but is it enough to outweigh his on-field production? He had just 33 tackles and one sack last year for Memphis and finished his college career with five total sacks. Not exactly first-round tape.



Stephen Hill, WR, Ga. Tech

The scoop: He's not a name often mentioned with the Jets, but if their war room wanted to trade out of their pick and go later in the first, Hill could be there. His combine numbers were good — even if his bench press was a bit low — and he has experience blocking in an option attack.

In the news Yanks' Pineda out for season due to shoulder

The Yankees lost stud prospect Jesus Montero in a trade for Michael Pineda. Now, they've lost Pineda for the season thanks to a right anterior labral tear in his shoulder. Pineda suffered the injury while beginning his rehab from the shoulder soreness that put him on the DL to start the season. Pineda will undergo arthroscopic surgery on Tuesday.

● METRO

In the news



Crawford injury Rarely is going to see Dr. James Andrews a good thing. In fact, about as rare as the guy seeing him not being a pitcher.

That's exactly what Boston outfielder Carl Crawford will be doing, however. Crawford has experienced soreness in his left elbow. He's been on the disabled list all season while recovering from surgery on his left wrist in the offseason.

► OK, so we all know who is going to go No. 1 overall ► And No. 2 as well ► But there is a ton of intrigue after those two picks ► We have the first round starting, ending with Stanford

Metro's NFL Mock Draft | Round 1



2 REDSKINS (5-11)
QB Robert Griffin III (Baylor) — The Olympic-caliber hurdler is a freakish athlete, but he also throws a beautiful deep ball. No question he needs some polish, but he has star potential.



3 VIKINGS (3-13)
OT Matt Kalil (USC) — They don't need a running back, so Kalil is the safe pick. Christian Ponder doesn't really inspire confidence, but he will even less lying on his back.



4 BROWNS (4-12)
RB Trent Richardson (Alabama) — The Browns haven't had a playmaker since ... Eric Metcalf? Richardson fits the bill, even if they have a ton of other concerns.



5 BUCCANEERS (4-12)
CB Morris Claiborne (LSU) — It's either Claiborne or WR Justin Blackmon. Greg Schiano is a defensive guy and they just signed WR Vincent Jackson.



6 RAMS (2-14)
WR Justin Blackmon (Okla. St.) — Sam Bradford needs someone to throw to besides ex-Giant Steve Smith. Blackmon gets compared to Dez Bryant, but he's smaller.



7 JAGUARS (5-11)
WR Michael Floyd (ND) — Generally we'd say new coach Mike Mularkey would want a new offensive toy and the best option is Michael Floyd. They might trade down.



8 DOLPHINS (6-10)
QB Ryan Tannehill (Texas A&M) — This seems to be the consensus from everyone. Obviously Miami does need a QB. I'm not high on Tannehill, but I'm not the Dolphins.



9 PANTHERS (6-10)
DE Chandler Jones (Syracuse) — You're not going to win the South unless you can put relentless pressure on Drew Brees and Matt Ryan. Jones is a fast-riser.



10 BILLS (6-10)
OT Riley Reiff (Iowa) — With the artist formerly known as Jason Peters (now Demetress Bell) leaving, they badly need a left tackle to replace him.



11 CHIEFS (7-9)
LB Luke Kuechly (BC) — Kuechly has Scott Pioli written all over him. They don't really need an inside linebacker, but Romeo Crennel probably wants to go defense.



12 SEAHAWKS (7-9)
DE/DT Fletcher Cox (Miss. St.) — The safe pick is Melvin Ingram, but when did Pete Carroll ever play it safe? Cox (if he's still here) is a beast. He's big, versatile and fast (ran track in high school).



13 CARDINALS (8-8)
OLB/DE Whitney Mercilus (Illinois) — Hybrid rusher who is perfectly suited for the 3-4 scheme. Cards would be wise to take him for the name alone: SOUND ... IT ... OUT. Scary.



14 COWBOYS (8-8)
CB Kirkpatrick ('Bama) — Has just enough off-the-field issues to make him a perfect fit in Jerry's World. Cowboys are desperate for a lock-down corner with Terence Newman gone.



15 EAGLES (8-8)
S Mark Barron ('Bama) — Philly hasn't been gun shy in recent years, so a trade wouldn't be a shock. If they stay at 15, they would be wise to finally replace Brian Dawkins.

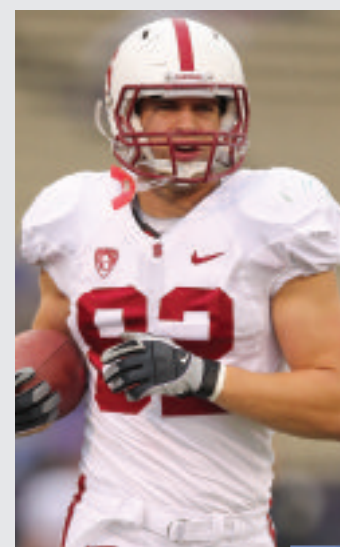


16 NY JETS (8-8)
DE/OLB Melvin Ingram (S. Carolina) — Jets haven't fared well with speed-rushers recently, but this is a no-brainer. His speed/athleticism will have Rex Ryan drooling.



COLTS (2-14)

QB Andrew Luck (Stanford) — We're not breaking ground here picking Luck to go No. 1. In fact, Indianapolis general manager Ryan Grigson just came out and said his team was going to pick the former Pac-12 signal caller. The only other option was Robert Griffin III, but Luck is the right choice. He has already played in a pro-style offense and will be the closest thing to Peyton Manning.



GIANTS (9-7)

Coby Fleener (Stanford) — The defending Super Bowl champs have the last pick in the draft and not very many holes to fill. GM Jerry Reese is big on the "best player available" mantra, which makes it hard to guess where they are going to go in the draft. However, if Fleener does drop to them, they could use a tight end with both Jake Ballard and Travis Beckham hurt.



17 BENGALS (9-7)
CB Stephon Gilmore (S. Car.) — He's jumped to No. 1 among corners, according to experts. However, we got his flashier SEC peers off the board first. Perfect kid to groom.



18 CHARGERS (8-8)
DT Dontari Poe (Memphis) — A combine monster that might have the most raw talent of anyone in this draft. Poe could thrive as a speed rusher in Chargers' 3-4 scheme.



19 BEARS (8-8)
OG David DeCastro (Stanford) — Best interior lineman on the board. We just don't value guards in top 15. DeCastro would greatly improve the 28th-ranked (49 sacks) O-line in football.



20 TITANS (9-7)
LT Jonathan Martin (Stanford) — Yes, we know the QB situation is murky, but the first step to help that is by drafting a franchise left tackle who played a pro-style offense.



21 BENGALS (9-7)
DE Quinton Coples (N. Car.) — Questions about work ethic and inconsistency has dogged Coples since switching from DT to DE. Still, his 33-inch arms would boost the pass rush.



22 BROWNS (4-12)
WR Stephen Hill (Ga. Tech) — A true downfield threat that would give the Browns some explosiveness on offense. As for getting the ball to him? That's a different story.



23 LIONS (10-6)
C/OG Peter Konz (Wisc.) — Konz could jump from center to guard whenever the Lions want. But his 6-foot-5 inch frame could hurt him as he sometimes gets outleveraged.



24 STEELERS (12-4)
LB Dont'a Hightower ('Bama) — The Steelers are always defense first. But they're getting up there in age. Hightower is tremendously versatile.



25 BRONCOS (8-8)
DE Shea McClellin (Boise St.) — McClellin's stock has jumped, and for good reason. He is a tad undersized for a DE, so look for him to see time at OLB as well.



26 TEXANS (10-6)
OG Kevin Zietler (Wisc.) — The Texans lost two members of their O-line in Eric Winston and Mike Brisiel. The college connection to J.J. Watt is one reason Houston could bite.



27 PATRIOTS (13-3)
DT Jerel Worthy (Mich. St.) — The Pats are never shy about taking solid lineman from either side of the ball here. The 6-foot-3-inch, 310-pound Worthy is a rock on the defensive line.



28 PACKERS (15-1)
DE/OLB Courtney Upshaw ('Bama) — Has great size and strength but lacks a bit in the speed department. Still, Upshaw is tremendous against the run.



29 RAVENS (12-4)
OG Amini Silatolu (Midwestern St.) — It remains to be seen how Silatolu will adjust to playing against the big boys week-to-week, but he has the frame for some optimism.



30 49ERS (13-3)
DE Vinny Curry (Marshall) — With their targeted O-linemen off the board, San Francisco improves their already loaded defense with Curry, a pure pass rusher.



31 PATRIOTS (13-3)
S Harrison Smith (ND) — The Pats finally replace Rodney Harrison with Harrison Smith in the defensive backfield. Devin McCourty would be back to corner permanently.

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► Captain Ryan Callahan leads the Rangers into a series-deciding Game 7 against the No. 8 seed Senators tonight.

It all comes to this

► Rangers face off with Senators in Game 7 tonight ► Blueshirts mostly successful in recent do-or-die games ► Richards: 'A great day in your life'

The Rangers' reward for a regular season that saw them win 51 games and earn 109 points comes tonight.

The Rangers host Game 7 of the Eastern Conference quarterfinal series against the Senators at the Garden tonight at 7 p.m. (MSG).

"It's a great day in your life to wake up and know everybody is watching," Brad Richards said after yesterday morning's loose but focused practice at the team's facility in Greenburgh, N.Y. The only player who did not participate in the practice was captain Ryan Callahan, who was given a "maintenance day" by John Tortorella.

"Game 7 is something you don't forget," Richards said.

The Rangers have won their last three Game 7s at the Garden. The last time the Rangers hosted a Game 7 was June 14, 1994. On that night, the Rangers beat the Vancouver Canucks, 3-2, to win the franchise's fourth Stanley Cup championship.

"I definitely think the crowd can be a factor," goalie Henrik Lundqvist said.

Added Michael Del Zotto: "I'm sure it's going to be exciting. We need [the fans to

Game 7 history

All time the Rangers are 3-5 in eight Game 7s:

- **April 2, 1939**
Lost 2-1 in OT to Bruins.
- **April 23, 1950**
Lost 4-3 in 2OT to Detroit.
- **May 2, 1971**
Lost 4-2 to Chicago
- **May 5, 1974**
Lost 4-3 to Philadelphia
- **May 1, 1992**
Beat New Jersey, 8-4
- **May 27, 1994**
Beat New Jersey, 2-1, in 2OT
- **June 14, 1994**
Beat Vancouver, 3-2
- **April 28, 2009**
Lost 2-1 to Washington

Devils face Game 7 test

While the Rangers steal the tri-city's hockey attention span, the Devils will also be facing a Game 7.

They travel to Florida in a do-or-die contest against the Panthers at 8:30 p.m. (MSG+).

The Devils trailed 3-2 in

be] on our side, especially tomorrow; create a hostile environment for Ottawa."

The last time the Rangers competed in a Game 7 was three years ago. The Rangers lost the game 2-1 to the Washington Capitals in the Eastern Conference quarterfinals, a series in which the Blueshirts had a 3-1 lead before dropping the final three games by an aggregate 11-4 margin.

"I think [more] positive energy in the group here," Lundqvist said when asked to differentiate the 2009 team and the current edition. Only Lundqvist, Ryan Callahan, Brandon Dubinsky, Marc Staal, Artem Anisimov and Dan Girardi remain from that team.



the series, but came away with a 3-2 overtime win behind Travis Zajac's win-

ner past Panthers goalie Scott Clemmensen.

"They are fun to be a part of," Martin Brodeur said of the Game 7 contest tonight. ● METRO

ANDRE RINGUETTE/NHLI/GETTY IMAGES



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